

“WHAT’S THIS STUFF?” ASKS DAVID POGUE



From January 12–26, 2011, visit pbs.org/nova/makingstuff to play “What’s This Stuff?” asks David Pogue. Create an account and solve the clues to figure out the ten mystery materials—some we use everyday, and others are on the cutting edge. Be one of the first to identify all ten, and you could win a great prize*! To read the official rules, visit pbs.org/wgbh/nova/making-stuff/contest-rules.html.

Think you’ve got the stuff to play? Look at the clues below and see if you know: What’s this stuff?



INFORMATION

Location: Everywhere

Relationship status:
Often seen with ink


Relatives:
papyrus, vellum

Birthday: AD 100

Hometown: China

FAVORITE PAGES

- NOVA
- WGBH
- Materials Research Society
- National Science Foundation
- U.S. Department of Energy
- Howard Hughes Medical Institute
- Powderhouse Productions

When you’re done, make sure to recycle me. You’ll be in good company—I account for a third of all recyclables. 

MYSTERY MATERIAL

Francs, Rupees, Yen, Pesos, Baht...the world over, people like having me around. I get used a lot, but I’m tough.

Library of Congress/TAJRI Standard Paper Materials Collection



Materials science is making me stronger than ever! A new version of me made from tiny fibers of cellulose is stronger than cast iron.

I was already popular, but Johannes Gutenberg’s invention made me a star and changed the course of civilization.

Museum of Outdoor Arts, www.moaonline.org



Ooooh...I look good on the runway! Check me out: youtube.com/watch?v=AonjMDk_O_E

©National Park Service/Blake Trester



People used to rag on me—that is, make me from a mixture of rags and water—until the 18th century when a French scientist observed a group of wasps making hives from chewed-up wood.

Think I always fall apart? Check out this house, built entirely from me! roadsideamerica.com/story/2109

©istockphoto.com/vuetla



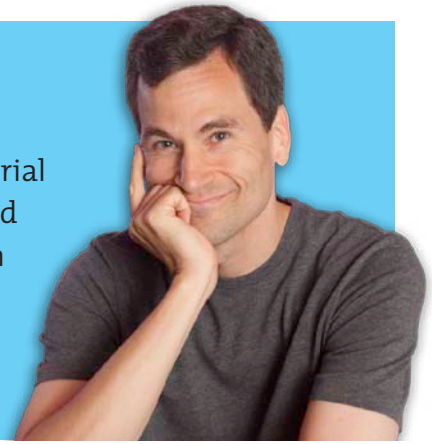
Long before a certain movie, I put the pulp in pulp fiction.

* See other side to find out about **MAKING STUFF with David Pogue**, a NOVA four-part series filled with amazing stuff and the people who make it! 

*The “What’s This Stuff?” asks David Pogue contest is open to legal residents of the 50 United States (except Arizona), who are at least 18 years old. Contestants must identify ten materials by solving clues and puzzles presented on a series of Facebook® pages. You do not need a Facebook account or have to sign in to Facebook to participate. The first eligible entry that identifies all ten materials will win the Grand Prize and the next ten eligible entries that correctly identify all ten materials will win Runner-Up Prizes. If there is no Grand Prize Winner, then the first eligible entry that identifies each one of the ten materials will each be a Runner-Up Winner. The Grand Prize Winner (if any) will receive a MacBook Air® (11in; 64GB), a \$100 iTunes® gift card, and the opportunity to have a video chat with David Pogue, the Host of NOVA’s *Making Stuff*. Each Runner-Up Winner (up to ten) will win an iPod touch® (8GB). NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER. To read the official contest rules, visit pbs.org/wgbh/nova/making-stuff/contest-rules.html.

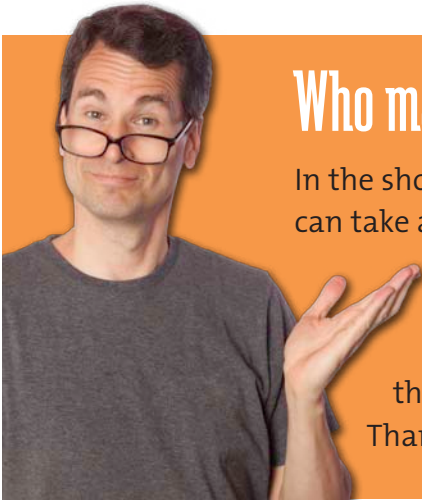
MAKING STUFF with David Pogue

MAKING STUFF, a new four-part NOVA series, is a thrilling tour of the material world we live in, and the one that could lie ahead. Guiding the tour is David Pogue, an award-winning technology writer for *The New York Times*. Watch as he takes you on a behind-the-scenes look at scientific breakthroughs that are leading to a new generation of materials that are stronger, smaller, cleaner, and smarter than anything we've ever seen before.



I know a lot about stuff—how can I prove it?

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Who makes the stuff seen in MAKING STUFF?

In the show you'll see bacteria-resistant film based on sharkskin, steel that can take a beating at a demolition derby, and nano-technology—some of the smallest of the small—that's leading to very big things. All of these, and more, are developed by materials scientists. Almost everything around you and everything you use each day—the clothes you wear, the dishes you eat from, the computer you use—is made of materials. Thanks to materials scientists, we have a lot of great stuff!

NOVA  PBS

MAKING STUFF

WITH
DAVID
POGUE

JANUARY 19, 2011

CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS

pbs.org/nova/makingstuff

FUNDING FOR NOVA IS PROVIDED BY DAVID H. KOCH, THE HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE, THE CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING, AND PUBLIC TELEVISION VIEWERS.

MAJOR FUNDING FOR *MAKING STUFF* IS PROVIDED BY THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION. ADDITIONAL FUNDING PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY.

PRODUCERS GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE COOPERATION OF THE MATERIALS RESEARCH SOCIETY. *MAKING STUFF* WAS PRODUCED BY POWDERHOUSE PRODUCTIONS FOR NOVA/WGBH.

DAVID H. KOCH

HHMI

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